

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 05331 182321Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 /068 W
-----081047 192120Z /75

R 181833Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5331
AMEMBASSY LIMA
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5331

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CI
SUBJ: AIR FORCE GENERAL LEIGH TO VISIT LIMA AUGUST 3-8

REF: SANTIAGO 138

1. JUNTA MEMBER AND AIR FORCE CINC GENERAL GUSTAVO LEIGH
HAS ANNOUNCED HE WILL MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO LIMA
AUGUST 3-8. THIS WILL BE LEIGH'S SECOND VISIT TO LIMA
SINCE THE MILITARY TOOK OVER IN CHILE IN SEPTEMBER 1973.

2. COMMENT: DURING THE PAST YEAR LEIGHT HAS EMERGED AS
THE MOST INFLUENTIAL CRITIC OF THE PERSONALIST STYLE OF
CHILEAN PRESIDENT AUGUSTO PINOCHET. HOWEVER, HE CON-
TINUES TO INSIST THAT CHILE NEEDS ANOTHER FIVE YEARS OF
MILITARY GOVERNMENT. GIVEN THE SOMETIMES DELICATE NATURE
OF PERUVIAN/CHILEAN RELATIONS, IT MAY BE THAT LEIGH WILL
AVOID ENTIRELY DISCUSSION OF CHILEAN INTERNAL MATTERS
WHILE HE IS IN LIMA. ON THE OTHER HAND HE MAY HAVE
MORE THAN AN ACADEMIC INTEREST IN THE PERUVIAN POLITICAL
TRANSITION PROCESS AND, GIVEN HIS GENERALLY FORTHRIGHT
NATURE, WE DO NOT RULE OUT PRIVATE CRITICISM OF PINOCHET
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TO HIS PERUVIAN COUNTERPARTS. WE WILL BE INTERESTED
IN WHAT EMBASSY LIMA CAN PICK UP FROM THE COCKTAIL COTERIE AND
OTHER INFORMED SOURCES.
LANDAU

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